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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.		
10/623,774	07/22/2003	Han Seop Ryu	LT-0040	6097		
34610	7590	05/13/2008	EXAMINER			
KED & ASSOCIATES, LLP P.O. Box 221200 Chantilly, VA 20153-1200				CHIO, TAT CHI		
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/623,774	RYU, HAN SEOP	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TAT CHI CHIO	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2008.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-6,8-11,13,18 and 19 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-6,8-11,13,18 and 19 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/3/2008</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/8/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 1/8/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that Hashimoto does not teach a plurality of titles of video programs separately stored on the disc to locate the title of the video program having the longest playback time.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Since the rejection is based on 35 USC 103, the reference cannot be interpreted separately. In combination, Kim and Hashimoto teach determine the playback time of the respective titles (col. 7, lines 28-67 and col. 8, lines 1-3 of Kim) and detect which data group has the longest data length that corresponds to the longest playback time ([0106] and [0107] of Hashimoto).

The applicant argues that Hashimoto does not teach or suggest "automatically" performing the determining and selecting of claim 1 "in response to a user command to reproduce information from said optical disc."

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Hashimoto teach “the user operates the reproduction key of the operation panel, the controller starts a reproducing process” in [0069] and “when the user performs menu selection on the menu screen and operates the reproduction key, the reproduction starts in accordance with the operation of the menu selection” in [0070]. Furthermore, after the reproduction key is pressed, the processing in Fig. 18 will begin. Therefore, Hashimoto teaches the determining and the selecting automatically performed in response to a user command to reproduce information from said optical disc.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
2. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim (US 6,343,180 B1) in view of Hashimoto (US 2002/0024893 A1).

Consider claim 1, Kim teaches a method for reproducing information from an optical disc having a plurality of titles that correspond to a respective number of video programs stored separately on said optical disc, said method comprising: Kim teaches detecting information indicative of respective playback times of the video programs corresponding to said titles stored on said optical disc, wherein the information indicative of the playback times for each of the video programs of said titles are included

with or within management information stored in a predetermined area of the disc (col. 7, lines 28-67 and col. 8, lines 1-3, the reproduction time codes are also considered to be the playback times and they are recorded in the PGClIs), but does not explicitly teach selecting and reproducing one of said titles of said optical disc with reference to the detected title playback times, wherein b) includes: determining a title that corresponds to a video program stored on said disc having a longest playback time, and selecting and forcibly reproducing the video program having the title with the longest playback time, said determining and selecting automatically performed in response to a user command to reproduce information from said optical disc.

Hashimoto teaches selecting and reproducing one of said titles of said optical disc with reference to the detected title playback times ([0107]), wherein b) includes: determining a title that corresponds to a video program stored on said disc having a longest playback time ([0106]. Hashimoto states that in a DVD, data corresponding to the story portion has the longest data length among other data such as control data and data for a menu. Although Hashimoto only states detecting the longest data length among other data such as control data and data for a menu, it can be inferred that the longest data length also has the longest playback time because Hashimoto says that a data group having the longest data length in a DVD corresponds to the story portion), and selecting and forcibly reproducing the video program having the title with the longest playback time ([0107]), said determining and selecting automatically performed in response to a user command to reproduce information from said optical disc ([0069] and [0070]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to determine and reproduce the longest playback time of the data group in a DVD so that the story portion can be delivered to the user immediately.

Consider claim 2, Hashimoto teaches the method, wherein a) and b) are performed when the user command selects an instant play mode in a displayed title menu ([0070]).

Consider claim 3, Hashimoto teach the method, wherein said optical disc having said plurality of titles is a digital versatile disc (DVD) ([0033]).

Consider claim 4, Kim further teaches the method, wherein a) includes: a-1) retrieving navigation information of said optical disc (col. 7, lines 63-67 and col. 8, lines 1-3); and a-2) detecting the respective playback times of said titles on the basis of the retrieved navigation information (col. 7, lines 63-67 and col. 8, lines 1-3).

Consider claim 5, Kim further teaches the method, wherein said navigation information includes information about the number of said titles, information about respective start addresses of said titles and information about the respective playback times of said titles (col. 7, lines 36-67 and col. 8, lines 1-10).

Consider claim 6, Kim further teaches the method, wherein: said titles each include video data stored separately in predetermined units (video data is stored in separate VOBU, Fig. 4); said navigation information further includes information about playback orders of said video data (VTS_PGCI of Fig. 4) and information about playback times of said video data together (cell reproduction time and reproduction time

of vobu of Fig. 4); and said playback time of each of said titles is detected as the sum of said playback times of said video data (Fig. 9B).

Consider claim 8, Hashimoto and Kim teach a method for reproducing an optical disc having a plurality of titles that correspond to a respective number of video programs stored separately on said optical disc, said method comprising: a) receiving a user's request to perform an all disc successive play operation with respect to a plurality of discs loaded in an optical disc apparatus ([0007] of Hashimoto); b) identifying a type of a specific disc to be currently reproduced among said plurality of discs (S5 of Fig. 12 of Hashimoto); c) if the identified disc type corresponds to said optical disc having the plurality of titles that correspond to the separately stored video programs, then detecting information indicative of respective playback times of the plurality of titles of said specific disc, wherein the playback times information for each of said titles are included with or within management information stored in a predetermined area of the disc (col. 7, lines 28-67 and col. 8, lines 1-3 of Kim, the reproduction time codes are also considered to be the playback times and they are recorded in the PGClIs); and d) selecting and reproducing one of said titles of said specific disc with reference to the detected title playback times ([0107] of Hashimoto), wherein d) includes: determining a title that corresponds to a video program stored on said disc having a longest playback time ([0106]), and selecting and forcibly reproducing the video program having the title with the longest playback time ([0107]), said determining and selecting automatically performed in response to the user's request ([0069] and [0070]).

Consider claim 9, Hashimoto teaches the method, wherein said specific disc having a plurality of titles is a DVD (S7 of Fig. 12).

Consider claim 10, Kim teaches the method, wherein said step c) comprises: detecting the respective playback times of said titles of said specific disc on the basis of navigation information of said specific disc (col. 7, lines 63-67 and col. 8, lines 1-3).

Consider claim 11, Kim teaches the method, wherein: said titles each include video data stored separately in predetermined units (video data is stored in separate VOBUs, Fig. 4); said navigation information includes information about playback orders of said video data (VTS_PGCI of Fig. 4) and information about playback times of said video data together (cell reproduction time and reproduction time of vobu of Fig. 4); and said playback time of each of said titles is detected as the sum of said playback times of said video data (Fig. 9B).

Consider claim 13, Hashimoto teaches the method, further comprising the step of: e) if the reproduction of said specific disc is completed, then successively reproducing a next one of said plurality of discs (Fig. 12).

Consider claim 18, Hashimoto and Kim teach a method for reproducing an optical disc having a plurality of titles that correspond to a respective number of video programs stored separately on said optical disc, said method comprising: a) identifying a type of a specific optical disc located at a position readable by an optical pickup when an all disc repeat play mode is set in a multi-disc changer under the condition that a plurality of optical discs including the specific optical disc are loaded in said multi-disc changer, said changer being adapted to wait at a menu picture before or after DVD

reproduction in a general play mode ([0070] of Hashimoto); b) if the identified optical disc type corresponds to a DVD, forcibly reproducing one of a plurality of titles recorded on said DVD on the basis of navigation information stored in a predetermined area of said DVD said navigation information including information indicative of playback times for each of said titles, the one of said titles forcibly reproduced selected based on a corresponding one of the playback times information stored in said predetermination of the playback times stored in said predetermined area of the DVD ([0008] and [0106] of Hashimoto, the data group that has the longest data length in a DVD is forcibly reproduced and the longest data length in a DVD corresponding to the story portion which has the longest playback times in a DVD); c) terminating the reproduction of said DVD by force if the title reproduction is completed (Fig. 12); and d) rotating a multi-tray in order for the disc seated in a next slot to be located at said position readable by said optical pickup ([0074] of Hashimoto), wherein b) includes selecting and forcibly reproducing a video program having a title with a longest playback time ([0107]), the video program automatically selected and forcibly reproduced in response to a user command setting the all disc repeat play mode of the multi-disc changer ([0107], [0034], and [0072]).

Consider claim 19, Hashimoto teaches the method, wherein said forcible reproduction and termination are performed by omitting the operation of waiting at said menu picture before or after the DVD reproduction ([0073]).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TAT CHI CHIO whose telephone number is (571)272-9563. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (571)-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. C. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621